

Thinking About Your Reading

The statement and questions below are designed to help your child think in different ways about the text they are reading. Each section includes examples of the types of statements or questions to use with your child to explore different levels comprehension within the text they are reading.

Activating Prior knowledge



- ✓ What do you think the author's purpose or motivation was for writing the story was?
- ✓ What do you already know about this topic?
- ✓ Have you ever been...? (Activity in the book)
- ✓ How does the time of day, season or weather affect the story?

Predicting



- ✓ I predict this book will be about... because...
- ✓ What do you think has happened in the story so far?
- ✓ What does the heading/title tell you about the story?
- ✓ What do you think is going to happen next?
- ✓ What do you think will happen in the next chapter?
- ✓ What do you think would happen in a sequel novel?
- ✓ What was in the text that helped you make that prediction?
- ✓ Was your prediction correct... do you need to change your prediction now?
- ✓ What surprises did you have in the story?

Making Connections



- ✓ I know what it feels like because...
- ✓ How is an event in this book similar to something you have experienced?
- ✓ How is a character in this book similar to someone you know?
- ✓ How is a setting in the book similar to somewhere you have been?
- ✓ How did this section remind you of a personal experience?
- ✓ How did this section remind you of another book?
- ✓ How did this section remind you of something in the wider world?
- ✓ What would you have done in the same situation?
- ✓ In reality, what events could not have happened?
- ✓ Have you read books by the same author? How is this story similar or different to the other books?
- ✓ Imagine being in ... shoes. How would you feel? What would you have done?

Visualising



- ✓ I can make a picture in my mind, it is...
- ✓ When I close my eyes I can see...
- ✓ What descriptions did the author use that you liked or found helpful to paint a picture in your mind?
- ✓ Close your eyes and describe the setting.

Self-monitoring



- ✓ Did what you say match what was written?
- ✓ Where was what you said not right?
- ✓ What did you notice?
- ✓ Clarify what... meant.
- ✓ Is there anything in the section/story that you need clarifying?
- ✓ Where was there a hard bit to read/understand?
- ✓ What words has the author used where you were unsure of the meaning?
- ✓ What statements or sentences has the author used where you were unsure of the meaning?
- ✓ How did the punctuation in that section want you to read?

Questioning



- ✓ I wonder why...

- ✓ I'd like to find out why ...
- ✓ Who... what... where... why... when... how...?
- ✓ What will this be about?
- ✓ Why did.... Happen, what is going to happen next?
- ✓ What questions does this book make you wonder about?
- ✓ What questions/mysteries do you still have that have been left unanswered?

Inferring



- ✓ I think what the author is trying to tell me ...
- ✓ These clues in the text ... made me think...
- ✓ This statement implied ...
- ✓ What do you think happened before the story?
- ✓ What was implied in this section?
- ✓ How do you think ... Was feeling? Why?
- ✓ Why do you think.... did...? Why

Synthesising



- ✓ I predicted... would happen, but now I think ...
- ✓ My ideas have changed after reading this. I now think ...
- ✓ If you could change one aspect of the story what would it be? Explain your reasons for making the change?
- ✓ What new things has this book offered you?
- ✓ How has this book influenced your decision making when choosing a book?
- ✓ What different title for the book/chapter could you come up with?
- ✓ What changes would you make to the story? (character, setting, plot)
- ✓ How was the information in the text the same/different as the information in ... (another text).
- ✓ Eliminate one of the characters. How would the story be different if that character was not in the story?
- ✓ What was a different ending to the story and what impact would it have on the characters?

Summarising



- ✓ The main idea of the story/section was ...
- ✓ I found this book useful/interesting because...
- ✓ The key words in this section were...
- ✓ What were the most important points in the section you just read?
- ✓ How do you feel about what is happening to one of the characters to the story? Why do you feel this way?
- ✓ Retell the 5 main events in the story?

Evaluating

- ✓ I think.... because...
- ✓ I found this book ... because...
- ✓ Do I agree or disagree with the author? Why?
- ✓ What should have been done to solve the problem?
- ✓ What does the author want me to believe?
- ✓ If you wrote to the author of this text what would you say?
- ✓ Who would you recommend this story to? Why?
- ✓ In your opinion what was the most important event?
- ✓ Explain the parts of the story liked?
- ✓ Explain the parts of the story didn't you like?
- ✓ Do you think... was a good thing or a bad thing? Why?
- ✓ Rate this book between 1-10 and justify your judgment
- ✓ How effective was the ending?